FISCAL MEMORANDUM

SB 2511 – HB 2861

March 12, 2012

SUMMARY OF AMENDMENT (013905): Deletes all language after the enacting clause. Requires the Tennessee Higher Education Commission (THEC) to study whether any changes should be made to the requirements for receipt of Tennessee Hope scholarship by GED recipients. Requires the Department of Labor and Workforce Development (LWD) Division of Adult Education, the Comptroller of the Treasury Office of Research and Education Accountability, and the Department of Education (DOE) to assist THEC. Directs THEC to make a report on its findings and recommended changes to the General Assembly by January 1, 2014.

Requires LWD, with the assistance of DOE and the State Board of Education, to develop and implement a new program for individuals who did not graduate from high school that will provide a means, other than the GED, to obtain a credential signifying completion of high school or its equivalent.

FISCAL IMPACT OF ORIGINAL BILL:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL WITH PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

> **Unchanged from the original fiscal note.**

Assumptions applied to amendment:

- THEC will complete the study and report to the General Assembly without an increase in personnel or a reduction in other budget items. Agencies specified in the bill will assist THEC as needed without a significant fiscal impact. Any increase in state expenditures to complete this study and make a report will be not significant.
- According to LWD, the design and implementation of a new credential showing high school completion will be done by the LWD Division of Adult Education in accordance with the Common Core State Standards or other standards currently in place. Though this requirement will require staff time, LWD estimates that the increase in state expenditures will be not significant.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Lucian D. Geise, Executive Director

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